

POWELL'S

XMAS
BAZAAROPEN
until 6 P.M.
DAILY.THEATRE ROYAL
CITY HALL.
MAURICE E. BANDMANN
PRESENTS.THE
BANDMANN
COMEDY CO.

INCLUDING MISS FLORENCE HANNAE.

TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY),
December 19,
ZAZA.MONDAY, Dec. 21st.
THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL.TUESDAY, Dec. 22nd.
JACK STRAW.WEDNESDAY, Dec. 23rd.
DIANA OF DOBSON'S.THURSDAY, Dec. 24th.
THE GAY LORD QUEX.Plan of Seats Now ready at MOUTRIE & CO.
PRICES \$3, \$2 & \$1.
Doors open 8.30. Commence 9 P.M.
Hongkong, December 2, 1908. 1623

VICTORIA CINEMATOGRAPH.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!

Songs by Miss MONTEZ and
MISS LAURA DIAMOND
GREAT SUCCESS.TWO PERFORMANCES NIGHTLY
8.15 to 9 P.M. and 9.15 to 11.15 P.M.Tickets can also be obtained at the
ROBINSON PIANO CO.Don't Forget the Address:
DES VŒUX ROAD
(POTTINGER STREET CORNER),
Hongkong, December 23, 1907. 1748THEATRE ROYAL,
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 26TH.GRAND XMAS
CONCERT
BY THE BAND OF
S.M.S. FUERST BISMARCK(BY KIND PERMISSION OF
ADMIRAL COOPER).Plan at -
ROBINSON PIANO CO., LTD.
Hongkong, December 18, 1908. 1701

M. Gains

NOW SHOWING
All the Latest PARISIAN MODES
IN
Autumn Millinery.INSPECTION INVITED
POPELLE MARCHIONE
(Saloon, Housing,
Over Stores, Lines & Co.)To Keep in Touch
With Home. -BUY A
VICTOR TALKING
MACHINE.A STOCK OF OVER
200 MACHINES
AND

10,000 RECORDS

TO SELECT FROM.
EASY PAYMENTS
CAN BE ARRANGED.S. MOUTRIE & CO., LTD.
YORK BUILDINGS, CHATER ROAD.
Hongkong, April 16, 1907.A. S. WATSON
& Co., Ltd.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

HIGH-CLASS

Confectionery.

We have just unpacked our
New Season's Confectionery
imported from the leading London,
Parisian and American
Houses.Cadbury's
Chocolates.

In Fancy Boxes:

Chocolate Almonds, Choco-
late Walnuts, Chocolate de la
Reine, Vienna Chocolate and
others, in Great Variety.Fuller's
Confectionery.Cocoanut Taffy, Almond
Taffy, Creme Apricots, Sucré
de la Creme Caramels, Pep-
permint Lumps, Marshmal-
low Balls, &c., &c., &c.Pascall's
French
Confectionery.Nougat, Nattoua, Walnut
Toffee, Fondants, Caramels,
&c., &c., &c.Tom Smith's
Crackers.A. S. WATSON & CO.
LIMITED.ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS AND
KOWLOON DISPENSARY.THE CITY OF PARIS,
2, PEDDER STREET.
PHONE NO. 536.Ready made Day and Evening
Gowns, Paris Models
in Hats and Toques,
Laces, Trimmings, Under-
clothing, Boots and Shoes,
Hosiery and Gloves, etc.,
etc.

MEMOS FOR MONDAY.

Amusements.
9 p.m.—Performances at City Hall.Auctions.
10 a.m.—Auction of Victualling Stores,
M. H. M. Naval Establishments.
2.30 p.m.—Auction of Magnificent Col-
lection of Oil-paintings at City Hall.

Miscellaneous

4 p.m.—Prize Distribution at St. Joseph's
College.
Goods per *Benelijt* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

General Memoranda.

Tuesday, December 22.—
2.30 p.m.—Auction of Gold & Diamond
Jewellery, &c., at Messrs Hughes &
Holland's Sales Rooms.
Goods per *Barcelona* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.Wednesday, December 23.—
Goods per *Hongkong Mirror* undelivered at
noon this date subject to rent.
Goods per *Paris* undelivered after this
date subject to rent.Thursday, December 24.—
Goods per *Desjardins* undelivered after
this date subject to rent.Saturday, December 26.—
9 p.m.—Grand Concert at City Hall.

NOTICE:

Communications relating to news should
be addressed to the Editor.Letters relating to business should be addressed
to the Manager.Correspondents must forward their names
and addresses with any communications ad-
dressed to the Editor, not for publication but
as evidence of good faith.All letters for publication should be written on
one side of the paper only.No anonymously signed communications that
have already appeared in other papers will be
inserted.Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail"
should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day after
publication. After that hour the supply is
limited. Cash 10 cts., Ureca 20 cts., per
copy.Alterations and additions to Advertisements
on Pages 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7, should be sent to the
Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11
a.m. New Advertisements should be sent in
before 3 p.m.Advertisements and Subscriptions which are
not ordered for a fixed period will be continued
until countermanded.Telegraphic Address: *Mail*, Hongkong.
Telephone No. 22.

The China Mail

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1908.

VENEZUELA.

We rather imagine that Holland will
not allow her present unpleasantness with
Venezuela to develop beyond the stage of
a "state of reprisals." The head and
front of the present trouble is PresidentCastro, a fire-brand of the type too pain-
fully familiar in the politics of Central
America. Curiously enough this gentle
man, the very name of *insouciant*,
is absent from his post being at present
in Germany, ostensibly for medical
treatment. This is on a par with his
general behaviour where foreigners are
concerned. Various nations have had
quarrels with President Castro, owing
to his arbitrary conduct towards their
nationals, but neither France, Great Britain,
nor the United States have obtained
much satisfaction from him. The reason
that Holland has been called upon to
enter the field where other Powers have
won nothing but the barren honour of
demonstrating that they were in the
right, is to be found in the Dutch island
Colony of Curacao which lies just off
the Venezuelan coast. Here the right of
political asylum has been given to all
Venezuelans who have had to flee
from the autocratic dictatorship of
Castro, much to the latter's annoy-
ance, for he prefers to give his
political opponents short shrift whenever
possible. Holland naturally refused
to surrender these political refugees to
the tender mercies of the President of
Venezuela, and he accordingly sought
means to bring the quarrel to a head
by his insulting the Dutch representa-
tive and then summarily sending himhis passports. The insult could not be
passed over, and in the steps which
Holland is taking she has the warm
approval of the Powers. We suspect that
the present trouble will resolve them-
selves to the disadvantage of Castro and
that Venezuela will find the easiest exit
by deposing her dictator and electing a
new President. Then she will be able
to treat with the stranger who is now
knocking so persistently at her gates
and so imperiously controlling all her
apologies for a Navy. As Venezuelan
presidents go, Castro has had a very
good run, and there can be very little
doubt that his long-suffering country is
very tired of him, though up to the
present she has been too scared to remove
him from the office into which he
thrust himself by a *coup d'état* lacking
none of the adroitness and blood
guiltiness usual to South American
revolutions. That Holland will get
much satisfaction out of the affair we
greatly doubt; still if she teaches the
Venezuelans that there is such a thing
as international good manners, she will
have achieved something; while if the
deposition of Castro is effected, she
must consider that she has done a very
good day's work indeed.At the Sanitary Board meeting on
Tuesday afternoon a letter will be read
from the Government relative to the
appointment of Mr Woodcock to act as
Deputy Registrar and Accountant of the
Supreme Court and Mr Gibson and Mr
Craig to continue to act as Secretaries of the
Sanitary Board.We have been asked to state that the
exhibition of pictures at the City Hall (St
Andrew's) will be open from 10 a.m. to
7 p.m. to-morrow, Sunday. This will give
those who have not had a chance of viewing
these fine pictures a good opportunity of
doing so, and as the proceeds are to be
given to charity there is no doubt the
attendance will be a large one.The *Times of Ceylon*, in course of some
remarks concerning a meeting held in
connection with the Liverpool School of Tropical
Medicine, says:—A flattering reference
is made in the report to Sir Henry
Blake, who seems to have made no of
those happy speeches which he often treated
the public to in Ceylon, and which
make us keenly regret that his capacity
to act was not so great as his gift of
oratory. Had it been so our ex-Governor,
would have been one of the most brilliant
administrators of his time.The following telegram was received by
Mr A. Bassett, District Attorney, in
the U. S. Court, Shanghai, from Mr E.
Root, Secretary of State, dated Washington,
December 11. "Not only does the
President not wish to accept your resignation,
but the Department particularly desires you
to retain your post and to assist the newly
appointed Judge in continuing the good
work of the Court and preserving what has
been accomplished by Judge Wilfley in
the unusual and most difficult stage of its
existence."As the American government found
that all the opium which had been
accumulating on its hands from seizures
and confiscations could not be sold in
Manila by reason of its constitution
a violation of the opium law, says a Manila
exchange, and that treaty law, even if
morality did not cut a figure, forbade
selling it to the Hongkong opium farmers,
in order to be smuggled again into the
islands, it concluded to make the best of a
bad bargain and destroy the lot. So the
other day the Insular iceplant was the scene
of the destruction of some 300 cans of
opium.A Criminal Commission, sitting at
Hanoi, has sentenced six anti-French
conspirators to death, and two others, to long
terms of penal servitude. Numerous
arrests have been made in connection with
an anti-French plot at Monin in Saigon.During the past year the income of the
Port of Calcutta rose to R10,956,142,
compared with R10,008,638 in 1906-7.
The expenditure amounted to R10,784,005,
the surplus being R175,037.A Criminal Commission, sitting at
Hanoi, has sentenced six anti-French
conspirators to death, and two others, to long
terms of penal servitude. Numerous
arrests have been made in connection with
an anti-French plot at Monin in Saigon.Lord Methuen, speaking at a banquet
given in his honour at Johannesburg,
explained that his mission to consolidate
the Colonial forces of South Africa, was
not undertaken with a view to the permanent
withdrawal of the regular troops, but
to enable the Empire to rely upon the
South African army in time of danger,
when every man available might be re-
quired to fight in Europe or elsewhere.On Friday night Kowloon Point, on
which is situated the fine new Godowns of
Messrs Holt & Co., of Liverpool, was ablaze
with electric lights. From the Hongkong
side of the harbour the outlines of the huge
buildings loomed out against the dark
background of the hills at the back, show-
ing, so to speak, the birth of a new and
great addition to the industry of the Colony.
It is expected that on the first of the new
year the godowns will be ready to com-
mence their busy life.In view of various sensational state-
ments which have been circulated regard-
ing the situation in India, Uxor's Agency
is authoritatively informed that the follow-
ing is the official view held in London:—

That it is absurd to suggest that anything

in the nature of a conspiracy has reached
the difficulty of getting hold of the
offenders and the slow process of the
Court. There is no tendency to undermine
the significance of the situation; but to
compare it with the era of the Mutiny is
grossly misleading, unwaranted, and
stupid. The authorities in London and in
India are actively co-operating, and
relations between Whitehall and Calcutta
were never on a more satisfactory basis.The following books were added to
Y. M. C. A. Library during the week:—
The Red Star, Sir William Magnay; The
Money-Changers, Upton Sinclair; Fennell's
Tower, Louis Tracy; Stolen Swords, Louis
Lam Lo Quan; My Story, Hall Caine; The
Gentleman, Alfred Ollivier; Purple Love,
Morris Gerard; The Spy, Max Gorkey;
Sir Richard Enoch, Max Pemberton;
The Socialism of Lady Jim, Florence Wed-
den; The Angel, Guy Thorne; Saltkaven,
W. W. Jacobs; Yours and Mine, Silas
Hocking; The Tempting of Paul Chester;
A. and C. Askew; The Waters of Jordan,
H. A. Yachell; The Elusive Pimpernel,
Baroness Orczy; The Riverman, S. E.
White; The Hermit and the Wild Woman,
Edith Wharton; Lewis Mum, Mary John-
son; The Man from Brodway, G. B.
McCutcheon.The following books were added to
Y. M. C. A. Library during the week:—The Red Star, Sir William Magnay; The
Money-Changers, Upton Sinclair; Fennell's
Tower, Louis Tracy; Stolen Swords, Louis
Lam Lo Quan; My Story, Hall Caine; The
Gentleman, Alfred Ollivier; Purple Love,
Morris Gerard; The Spy, Max Gorkey;

Sir Richard Enoch, Max Pemberton;

The Socialism of Lady Jim, Florence Wed-
den; The Angel, Guy Thorne; Saltkaven,
W. W. Jacobs; Yours and Mine, Silas
Hocking; The Tempting of Paul Chester;A. and C. Askew; The Waters of Jordan,
H. A. Yachell; The Elusive Pimpernel,
Baroness Orczy; The Riverman, S. E.
White; The Hermit and the Wild Woman,
Edith Wharton; Lewis Mum, Mary John-
son; The Man from Brodway, G. B.
McCutcheon.

TO THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY.

IN ordering household supplies, don't

forget to lay in a supply of Chamber-

lain's Cough Remedy.

You may not need it now, but you are

sure to need it when you are ill.

It never fails in case of colds.

For sale by all chemists and

druggists.

TWENTY million in ladies are going to

be cured this year by Siemens' High

Tension Cure.

An awful lot of them.

H. Price & Co., Ltd.

WINE, SPIRIT & CIGAR MERCHANTS.

No. 12, Queen's Road.

Hongkong, November 18, 1908.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Bangkok has been proclaimed an
infected port by Hongkong.At the Sanitary Board meeting on
Tuesday afternoon a letter will be read
from the Government relative to the
appointment of Mr Woodcock to act as
Deputy Registrar and Accountant of the
Supreme Court and Mr Gibson and Mr
Craig to continue to act as Secretaries of the
Sanitary Board.We have been asked to state that the
exhibition of pictures at the City Hall (St
Andrew's) will be open from 10 a.m. to
7 p.m

A PEER AT THE HEAVENS.

The members of the Y.M.C.A. Debating Society and a large number of friends were accorded a very great treat on Friday evening, when Mr J. Plummer, M.A., gave a most enjoyable and instructive lecture at the Y.M.C.A. Captain F. A. Brown presided.

"I suppose I may safely assume, that if anyone here present, were offered the opportunity of visiting a fully equipped Observatory, for the purpose of seeing a few celestial objects through a large telescope, that the invitation would be accepted with avidity," began the lecturer. In the course of more than forty years' experience it had been his lot to act as steward on many occasions, and he had ever been anxious, that the result had greatly fallen short of the expectation. There were many reasons why this should be so. It required in the first place some experience, before all that is actually visible in a telescope is really made out by the observer, even the simple matter of focusing on an object, which everyone must do for himself, was not easily accomplished as it would appear to be, the vagaries of the eye, which only allow of certain objects being viewed under the most favourable circumstances on rare occasions, and the enormous dimensions of the objects reduced to such insignificant proportions by distances too vast to be really appreciated by the human mind, all tended to diminish the impression made upon the infrequent beholder.

The Heavens were such a masterpiece that they did not impress themselves upon us with all their glory at the first casual glance. It was necessary for the mind to turn to the contemplation of the like, to develop the sense of magnificence for facts beyond the ordinary limits of thought, to know something that we may know more, and precisely as we have succeeded in doing so, shall we really enjoy and admire the spectacle which is presented to us. During the last quarter of a century a very great development had taken place in the art of photography as applied to celestial objects with astonishing results. The plate within the camera had taken the place of the human eye, and marvellous as that organ was it saw many things which the eye could not detect.

The lecturer then detailed the various stages of the various stars and exhibited some really splendid pictures on the screen, it being only possible to do so owing to the lecturer being a F. R. S.

The lecture was very highly appreciated.

CHEONG-SHA-WAN MURDER CHARGE.

A Verdict of "Manslaughter."

The case in which Chiu Yuen Fuk stood charged with murder was resumed at the Criminal Sessions before the Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) this morning. The Attorney General (the Hon. W. Reed Davies, K.C.) prosecuted for the Crown; while Mr. E. Bellis defended.

That the Gravys being concluded, Mr. Bellis addressing the jury, said that the defense would be that it was deceased who first took up the knife, slew prisoner, and then a scuffle ensued. In the scuffle deceased dropped his knife and that was the time when prisoner first got possession of it. Prisoner was thrown on the ground, his throat was being squeezed by the deceased, and, being the weaker man, he stabbed upwards in self protection. Mr. Bellis submitted that, there was not the slightest article of evidence to show that prisoner premeditated murder. The Attorney General contended that the evidence of the prisoner, uncorroborated by any witnesses whatever, was highly improbable.

His Lordship, summing up, said that he was the first Chinaman in the assize Court had availed himself of the privilege of going into the box and giving evidence on oath on so serious a charge. And they must remember that it required a great deal of pluck to face the Attorney General's cross-examination if the prisoner were not speaking the truth. His Lordship could not say that the witnesses on behalf of the Crown had been altogether satisfactory; there were certain discrepancies which made it hard to believe that they spoke exactly the truth, although they probably believed that what they were telling was what they thought they saw. After saying that the position of the wounds rather told in favour of the prisoner's story, his Lordship said if the jury believed that it was prisoner who chose deceased, that a quarrel followed, and it led to the wound being given, they must find him guilty of murder. But if they believed that the two had had a quarrel, there was no punishment, and something which they were not quite clear of happened, it was their duty to bring in a verdict of "Manslaughter."

The jury returned a verdict of "Manslaughter," with a recommendation to mercy.

His Lordship said, having regard to the recommendation to mercy, and the circumstances of the case, he should sentence prisoner to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

CANTON NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

CANTON, December 17.

Since the prohibition of opium-smoking many medicines have been advertised to cure those addicted to the habit and one of the most common has been in the form of pills; anti-opium pills as they are called. The authorities now find that these anti-opium pills are mostly composed of morphine, and as the morphine is doing a great deal of harm to former opium-smokers, Viceroy Chang has issued an order strictly prohibiting the sale of such pills.

For those who are hard up there is at present an opportunity of earning \$200.

Throughout the city of Hong Kong in Lai Chow there recently appeared placards running as follows:— "At 11 o'clock on the 5th day the 11th month, will find at the foot of Pei Kai Mountain: there will be a march to the city and say all the officials."

The magistrate, Mr. Chua, is now offering a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the authors of this placard.

A NOTABLE FACT.

THE above of all narcotics makes Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the safest and best medicine for all coughs, colds, sneezing and whooping cough that can be presented. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

ADJOURNMENT OF CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

When the Criminal Sessions were resumed to-day, His Lordship the Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) stated that he had seven or eight days' work in front of him, and only three days in which to do it, he should adjourn the sessions, after the case in hand was completed until January 4th, 1909. Jurors would therefore not be required until that date.

GRAND ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

The Band of S. M. S. Fuerst Bismarck are giving us another concert, this time in the Theatre on Saturday, 25th December at 9 p.m. The programme is made up of about 12 items, and a special feature will be a medley of Xmas airs by a Toy symphony orchestra. The date selected is a most suitable as it immediately follows Xmas, and takes place on a Saturday evening. Seats are being bought up briskly and to avoid disappointment music lovers should secure seats at once. It is needless to comment on the abilities of this Orchestra for each man is an artist and they have become more popular than ever in this Colony.

PRIZEGIVING AT BELLIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The annual prize distribution in connection with the vernacular department of Bellios Public School was held this morning, when some very high-class work, done by the girls of the school was on view. Songs and recitations were splendidly given by several scholars and the prizes were distributed by Mr E. D. C. Wolfe, Inspector of Schools, who in doing so emphasized the good work done by that school during the last two or three years. There had not only been an increase in numbers but also in efficiency. In 1904, when it stood at 297, while this year it had already increased to 235, 27 but that was undoubtedly due to the epidemic of plague during the summer months. The maximum enrolment last year had never been above 300, but in February this year it had stood at 300. In view of the great increase in numbers the Government had been compelled to provide enough teachers in spite of the vision of retrenchment committee and such other unpleasant things, so that the school would require two more teachers. Mr. Wolfe also mentioned that a pupil teachers class was also formed in connection with that school and agreed upon the work to be done to become qualified to attend and in conclusion, in his report, paid a very high tribute to the efficient manner in which the work had been carried out during the year.

OBSERVATION STATION AT LAICHIKOK.

At the monthly meeting of the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce the chairman brought to the attention of the committee the additional regulations to Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance (No. 10 of 1899) made by the Governor in Council on 23rd November, 1908, under section 25 of the above Ordinance.

The chairman pointed out that under the new regulations the owners of "infested" vessels must render the ship to be held subject to such expenses as the cost of lymph, disinfectants, water, lighting, police guard, nurses, wardroombins, medicines and medical comforts, &c., &c., in the whole cost of upkeep of Observation Stations. It was considered that such an imposition would cause many owners to send their vessels when engaged in the Cochin trade direct to such Coast Ports as Foochow, Amoy and Swatow to the detriment of the interests of the Colony.

The Committee thought that the regulations governing the ports of Singapore, by which the Chinese Government, for the actual use of their own passengers, for disinfection of the vessels, and for burial expenses only, were more equitable.

Government made regulations obliging owners to set down infected passengers at a certain spot where they were detained at the will of the Government—Government should therefore pay the cost of the upkeep of such establishments which were maintained in the interests of the Colony.

The Committee decided to protest against the new regulations.

ROBBERS CAUSE ANXIETY TO OFFICIALS.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

CANTON, December 18.

The present prevalence of robbery throughout the province is causing the authorities considerable anxiety, and thought.

Soldiers are stationed in all the chief places, and as soon as a serious case of robbery is reported a party of soldiers are sent to the spot to guard the people there from any further attacks.

The officials have a good deal of faith in their soldiers, and are taking what precautions they can to keep out undesirable, such as revolutionaries. A case happened recently which shows how much trust is warranted and how successful they are in their attempts to gain trustworthiness.

Yim Ho, a soldier of the 6th regiment of the Central Army recently asked for furlough on the plea that he had to return home to attend to some family business, but on the expiration of his term of leave he failed to present an appearance and a party of soldiers were sent out in search of the deserter. On the 2nd inst. a robbery was captured on the following day by some soldiers stationed in a neighbouring village, Yung Kai. This leader proved to be Yim Ho, the deserter.

So as to serve as a warning to the other soldiers, Yim was sentenced to be beheaded.

THAT MEANS RHEUMATISM.

SORE and swollen joints, sharp shooting S. pain, torturing muscles, no rest, no sleep. That means rheumatism. It is a scrofulous disease to fight, but Chamberlain's Pain Balsam has conquered it thousands of times. It will do so whenever the opportunity is offered. Try it. One application relieves the pain. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

RAMBLING NOTES.

The popular skipper of the Chili, Captain Warrack, took unto himself a wife the other day. The bride waited from the boat of Don-Accord. With a new mate aboard I trust the skipper will find his future voyage through life a most pleasant one.

There will be many in Hongkong who will miss the kindly face and genial smile of Sister Alphonse of the Italian Convent, who passed peacefully away this week after a lifetime spent in the good work of her Lord and Master. She has entered on her eternal rest. *Requiescat in pace.*

The Bandmann Comedy Company have been giving us an excellent taste of their programme this week and on the whole they have been well patronised. The plays next week are all good, and I hear the booking for Monday night, when the "Scarlet Pimpernel" will be given, is phenomenal.

A correspondent draws my attention to the water tap on that island strip of land with Battery Path on the one side and Queen's Road Central on the other, and maintains that the water there is very seldom if ever stopped and believes that in this way a very large quantity is wasted daily. Possibly the P.W.D. will take the matter up!

It was a most inspiring and instructive address which Archbishop Kelly of Sydney delivered before the members of the Catholic Union Club on Monday evening, comprehensive in its survey, touching and interesting in the beauty of its language. Everyone present, no doubt, gleaned something from the address which will be useful to him or her in their everyday life. Those who were not fortunate enough to hear His Grace missed a rare treat.

Everyone whose business it is to attend the Magistrate daily must have been struck with the somewhat curious custom, or system if you like, which prevails in the market. The market has ruled during the week, with an indication to weakness and in most cases rates show a slight decline in the absence of buyers. Sterling exchange has ruled slightly weaker, and closes at 12.30 p.m. True, pressure of other things might compel this necessity, but it is not frequently happening that when a man is down he stays down, and the particular time there is a long wait of perhaps more than an hour from the finish of the previous case. No doubt this great inaccuracy could be easily obviated.

It was the Criminal Sessions. The witness in the box was a Chinese Countryman. A point turned on the question of time. Witness was asked by learned counsel if he could read the time by an English clock. His proud reply was that he could. A test of this knowledge was decided upon; witness was asked to look at the court time-piece. The hour according to this was 11.45 a.m. Witness studiously gazed at the time-piece for some minutes. Then, with a triumphant beam on his face, he declared with confidence "Three o'clock!" The Court roared.

"Jack, my darling, how could you doubt my love? I love you and you only," Margaret. "So runs a lines in the *Agony Column* of the *Standard*. Now there must be nearly a million Jacks in London alone, and perhaps the same number of Margaret; then how on earth is this one particular Jack to know that it is his own adorable Margaret who has spent two shillings in the attempt to communicate with him instead of relying on the humble pony post card? But hold! The announcement may be a secret message from Bill Sykes to Fagin regarding the possibility of abducting the Cutlitham diamonds from the Tower.

"Jack, my darling, how could you doubt my love? I love you and you only," Margaret. "So runs a lines in the *Agony Column* of the *Standard*. Now there must be nearly a million Jacks in London alone, and perhaps the same number of Margaret;

then how on earth is this one particular Jack to know that it is his own adorable Margaret who has spent two shillings in the attempt to communicate with him instead of relying on the humble pony post card? But hold! The announcement may be a secret message from Bill Sykes to Fagin regarding the possibility of abducting the Cutlitham diamonds from the Tower.

The Committee thought that the regulations governing the ports of Singapore, by which the Chinese Government, for the actual use of their own passengers, for disinfection of the vessels, and for burial expenses only, were more equitable.

Government made regulations obliging owners to set down infected passengers at a certain spot where they were detained at the will of the Government—Government should therefore pay the cost of the upkeep of such establishments which were maintained in the interests of the Colony.

The Committee decided to protest against the new regulations.

ROBBERS CAUSE ANXIETY TO OFFICIALS.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

CANTON, December 18.

The present prevalence of robbery throughout the province is causing the authorities considerable anxiety, and thought.

Soldiers are stationed in all the chief places, and as soon as a serious case of robbery is reported a party of soldiers

are sent to the spot to guard the people there from any further attacks.

The officials have a good deal of faith in their soldiers, and are taking what precautions they can to keep out undesirable, such as revolutionaries. A case happened recently which shows how much trust is warranted and how successful they are in their attempts to gain trustworthiness.

Yim Ho, a soldier of the 6th regiment of the Central Army recently asked for furlough on the plea that he had to return home to attend to some family business, but on the expiration of his term of leave he failed to present an appearance and a party of soldiers were sent out in search of the deserter. On the 2nd inst. a robbery was captured on the following day by some soldiers stationed in a neighbouring village, Yung Kai. This leader proved to be Yim Ho, the deserter.

So as to serve as a warning to the other soldiers, Yim was sentenced to be beheaded.

THAT MEANS RHEUMATISM.

SORE and swollen joints, sharp shooting S. pain, torturing muscles, no rest,

no sleep. That means rheumatism. It is a scrofulous disease to fight, but Chamberlain's Pain Balsam has conquered it thousands of times. It will do so whenever the opportunity is offered. Try it. One application relieves the pain. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

For those who are hard up there is at present an opportunity of earning \$200.

Throughout the city of Hong Kong in Lai Chow there recently appeared placards running as follows:— "At 11 o'clock on the 5th day the 11th month, will find at the foot of Pei Kai Mountain: there will be a march to the city and say all the officials."

The magistrate, Mr. Chua, is now offering a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the authors of this placard.

A NOTABLE FACT.

THE above of all narcotics makes

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the

safest and best medicine for all coughs,

colds, sneezing and whooping cough that can be presented. For sale by all chemists

and druggists.

For those who are hard up there is at present an opportunity of earning \$200.

Throughout the city of Hong Kong in Lai Chow there recently appeared placards running as follows:— "At 11 o'clock on the 5th day the 11th month, will find at the foot of Pei Kai Mountain: there will be a march to the city and say all the officials."

The magistrate, Mr. Chua, is now offering a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the authors of this placard.

A NOTABLE FACT.

THE above of all narcotics makes

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the

safest and best medicine for all coughs,

colds, sneezing and whooping cough that can be presented. For sale by all chemists

and druggists.

much-denounced ornament, the maligned hat. They had impinged on the tickets sold at the theatre the warning "Hats and bonnets not allowed." But a lady arrived, with an escort male, and her ticket, bought at a library, had given her no notice of the now restriction. She was making her way to the stalls when an attendant admonished her about her headgear—she must doff it. She did so perforce, and her escort, and the manager, "I am sorry."

The man, who was accompanying her sought to help her to obey the management's behalf, and her amiable removal of his caplessness was, "You stupid! Some of my ears are fixed to my hat."

The Hongkong Football League seems

now to have got a good start, and the question of available playing space, which

was so much put forward as an objection at the first meeting by representatives of the senior club, has had its own answer in the fact that no less than four League matches were played last Saturday afternoon.

Owing to the late formation of the League and the great difficulty it has been in to arrange a proper fixture list, so these have to be fixed every Monday evening, and so far there has been a good attendance at these meetings, all clubs in the League having expressed themselves on more than one occasion most anxious to work together harmoniously for the good of the League.

In this way many of the suggested difficulties have proved non-existent, and I feel sure that it is the earnest wish of all spectators in general, and for particular that the Hongkong Football League will ultimately be a most interesting one.

It is the earnest wish of all spectators in general, and for particular that the Hongkong Football League will ultimately be a most interesting one.

CHURCH SERVICES.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 9 a.m. 1908.
St. John's Cathedral.

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT.
Holy Communion (7.30 a.m.)
Matins (11 a.m.)—*W. W. Clark*.
Response, *Fairi. Vespas. Turner*.
Psalms, of the 20th morn. (II); Benedic, Best in C. Jubilate. Gaudete; Antiphon: "Sleepers Wake," Mendelssohn.
Holy Communion (12.30 p.m.).
Kyrie, Smart in E.; *Yanns*, 51 and 49.
N.B.—*Psalm 102*; *Verses 1, 12, 15, 21, 25, 28 in unison*; *Psalm 13, Verses 1, 8, 17, 19, 21, 22 in unison*.
Evensong (6.45 p.m.).
Response, *Fairi*; *Psalms of the 20th evening (II); Magdalene, Ormidge (12th morning); Name Dicitus; Fulton; Hymns 93, 63 and 61*.
Pracher: *Rev. A. B. Stewart, M.A.*

UNION CHURCH.

Kennedy Road.
Minister: *Rev. G. J. Hickling*.
11 a.m.—Worship. Hymns 519, 109, Paraphrase, 9. Psalm 96. Antiphon: "Eyes of all" (bar). Subject: "What is suitable for Christmas?"
4 p.m.—Special Christmas Service for Children and Parents, conducted by *Rev. G. J. Hickling*.
6 p.m.—Worship. Hymns 507, 514, 227, 29, Psalm 109.
7 p.m.—Organ Recital: Festive March (Slow); *Antiphon (Lamento)*.
Wednesday:—No Service.
Friday, 8.30 a.m.—Christmas Morning Service.

St Andrews, Kowloon.
At St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, to-morrow (Friday in Advent), the Holy Communion will be administered at the close of the Evening Service. Morning Prayer and sermon at 11 a.m. (attended weather permitting by the Church Parade party of "H" Company, 2nd Battalion "The Buffs." Children's Services at 3 p.m. Holy Baptism at 4 p.m. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 6 p.m. The offerings will be in aid of the Church Missionary Fund, which is still in the Treasury's debt, besides having some heavy claims to meet in the future. It is hoped that next year overture, and other contributions intended for 1908 will be remitted with due for this day.

The decorations of the Church for Christmas Services will be undertaken on Thursday next, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., when the assistance of friends will be welcomed.

Peak Church.

Holy Communion:—8 a.m.
German Chapel (Deutsche Kapelle) Highgate, 1. German service at 11 a.m. Pastor John Müller.

St. Peter's Church, Queen's Road West.

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT.
Morning Prayer 11 a.m.
Vespas. Turner; Psalm, Foster and Weddy; *Te Deum, Ockley; Hymns, 4, 73, 594, 224; Kyrie*.

Holy Communion:—11 a.m.

Evening Prayer 6.30.

Glory Magnificat. Organ: *Nunz, Dimitri, Savage; Hymns, 58, 254, 503, 554*. The Church lounge ("Day-spring," will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m. and between 3.15 and 6 p.m. (Kowloon Police Pier 10.30 and 8.30 returning afterwards. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome. Books &c., provided. Sunday School 10-10.45 a.m.)

Christians Carols will be sung by the choir of the Seamen's Church, West Point, on Sunday next, before the Evening Service, from 6 to 8.30.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street.

2 p.m.—Psalms and a sermon
8 p.m.—Gospel Sing Service.

Wesleyan Naval and Military Church, Wan Chai.

Morning Service at 10.15.

Evening Service at 6.

Deutsche Kirche.
Gottlobians:—11 a.m. in Bethel Kapelle, Caine Road.

Christian Science Services.

Zurück Strasse, Sundays:—11.15 a.m.

Wednesday:—5.30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church.

Mass, Sermon (English) and Benediction at 10 a.m.

Rosary Church Kowloon.

Intimations will be given of our Divine Services in the Rosary Church, Kowloon, on Sundays, at 10.30 a.m. (Solemn Mass); First Mass at 7 a.m., Solemn Mass at 9 a.m., followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, December 19, 1908.

On London—
Bank Wire 1/8/4

" On demand 1/8/4

" 30 days' sight 1/8/4

" 4 months' sight 1/8/4

Credits, 4 months' sight 1/8/4

Documentary, 4 months' sight 1/8/4

On Paris—
On demand 21/1

Credits, 4 months' sight 21/1

On Berlin—
On demand 17/2

On New York—
On demand 41

Credit, 40 days' sight 42/1

On Bombay—
Wire 126

On demand 126

On Calcutta—
Wire 126

On Shanghai—
On demand 75/4

On Singapore—
30 days' sight (private paper) 76/4

On Tokio—
On demand 82/1

Gold Leaf, 100 fine (per tael) 80/1.50

Government (Bank's buying rate) 81/1.74

Bar Silver in Hongkong 92/4

Chinese Copper, Cents 12/4

Copper Cents 12/4

Notes of Native Interest 74/4

Chinese Gold Cents 20/4

Hongkong Silver Cents 12/4

EXPERT FAILED TO CURE HIS ECZEMA

Had Suffered Six Years—Face Badly Affected—Dared Not Go Out when Air Was Raw—Cultura Proved Only Remedy—Also Cured Ringworm or Girl's Arm.

Response, *Fairi*; *Psalms of the 20th evening (II); Magdalene, Ormidge (12th morning); Name Dicitus; Fulton; Hymns 93, 63 and 61*.

Pracher: *Rev. A. B. Stewart, M.A.*

UNION CHURCH.

Kennedy Road.

Minister: *Rev. G. J. Hickling*.
11 a.m.—Worship. Hymns 519, 109, Paraphrase, 9. Psalm 96. Antiphon: "Eyes of all" (bar). Subject: "What is suitable for Christmas?"

4 p.m.—Special Christmas Service for Children and Parents, conducted by *Rev. G. J. Hickling*.

6 p.m.—Worship. Hymns 507, 514, 227, 29, Psalm 109.

7 p.m.—Organ Recital: Festive March (Slow); *Antiphon (Lamento)*.

Wednesday:—No Service.

Friday, 8.30 a.m.—Christmas Morning Service.

St Andrews, Kowloon.

At St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, to-morrow (Friday in Advent), the Holy Communion will be administered at the close of the Evening Service. Morning Prayer and sermon at 11 a.m. (attended weather permitting by the Church Parade party of "H" Company, 2nd Battalion "The Buffs." Children's Services at 3 p.m. Holy Baptism at 4 p.m. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 6 p.m. The offerings will be in aid of the Church Missionary Fund, which is still in the Treasury's debt, besides having some heavy claims to meet in the future. It is hoped that next year overture, and other contributions intended for 1908 will be remitted with due for this day.

The decorations of the Church for Christmas Services will be undertaken on Thursday next, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., when the assistance of friends will be welcomed.

Peak Church.

Holy Communion:—8 a.m.

German Chapel (Deutsche Kapelle) Highgate, 1. German service at 11 a.m. Pastor John Müller.

St. Peter's Church, Queen's Road West.

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

Morning Prayer 11 a.m.

Vespas. Turner; Psalm, Foster and Weddy; *Te Deum, Ockley; Hymns, 4, 73, 594, 224; Kyrie*.

Holy Communion:—11 a.m.

Evening Prayer 6.30.

Glory Magnificat. Organ: *Nunz, Dimitri, Savage; Hymns, 58, 254, 503, 554*. The Church lounge ("Day-spring," will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m. and between 3.15 and 6 p.m. (Kowloon Police Pier 10.30 and 8.30 returning afterwards. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome. Books &c., provided. Sunday School 10-10.45 a.m.)

Christians Carols will be sung by the choir of the Seamen's Church, West Point, on Sunday next, before the Evening Service, from 6 to 8.30.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street.

2 p.m.—Psalms and a sermon

8 p.m.—Gospel Sing Service.

Wesleyan Naval and Military Church, Wan Chai.

Morning Service at 10.15.

Evening Service at 6.

Deutsche Kirche.

Gottlobians:—11 a.m. in Bethel Kapelle, Caine Road.

Christian Science Services.

Zurück Strasse, Sundays:—11.15 a.m.

Wednesday:—5.30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church.

Mass, Sermon (English) and Benediction at 10 a.m.

Rosary Church Kowloon.

Intimations will be given of our Divine Services in the Rosary Church, Kowloon, on Sundays, at 10.30 a.m. (Solemn Mass); First Mass at 7 a.m., Solemn Mass at 9 a.m., followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, December 19, 1908.

On London—
Bank Wire 1/8/4

" On demand 1/8/4

" 30 days' sight 1/8/4

" 4 months' sight 1/8/4

Credits, 4 months' sight 1/8/4

Documentary, 4 months' sight 1/8/4

On Paris—
On demand 21/1

Credits, 4 months' sight 21/1

On Berlin—
On demand 17/2

On New York—
On demand 41

Credit, 40 days' sight 42/1

On Bombay—
Wire 126

On Calcutta—
Wire 126

On Shanghai—
On demand 75/4

On Singapore—
30 days' sight (private paper) 76/4

On Tokio—
On demand 82/1

Gold Leaf, 100 fine (per tael) 80/1.50

Government (Bank's buying rate) 81/1.74

Bar Silver in Hongkong 92/4

Chinese Copper, Cents 12/4

Copper Cents 12/4

Notes of Native Interest 74/4

Chinese Gold Cents 20/4

Hongkong Silver Cents 12/4

To-day's Advertisements

ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THIS NOTICE OF AN EXTENSIVE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on TUESDAY, the 22nd December, 1908, at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Room, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, corner of Ice House Street,—

A VERY VALUABLE ASSORTMENT OF GOLD AND DIAMOND JEWELLERY, TWICE SUCCESSFUL

Comprising:—18 K. GOLD HUNTER WATCHES, CHINESE STRIKE REPEATED, GOLD HUN